

System change – not climate change

A People's Declaration from Klimaforum09

SUMMARY

We, participating people and organisations at the Klimaforum09 in Copenhagen, declare that there are solutions to human-made climate change. What people and the planet need is a just and sustainable transition of our societies to a more fertile planet and more fulfilling lives for future generation. The foundation for this is:

- **A complete disclosure of fossil fuels within the next 30 years** and a reduction of greenhouse gas emission down to not more than 1 ton CO₂ per capita in each single country. This must be accomplished before year 2025 and before the level of 440ppm is reached. Reductions of emissions must be made real by promoting the use of safe, clean and renewable energy.
- **A current effort in each country to further the sequestration of greenhouse gasses** already present in the atmosphere and those that will be added as a consequence of the present rainforest destruction of the rainforests, the dying of the boreal forests and the thawing of the tundra, in order to bring the content of carbon dioxide back to a level below 350 ppm. Carbon sequestration should be based on plant systems that are native and diverse, according to local soil, biodiversity and climate conditions that can provide a maximum of sequestration in the shortest possible time and support a biodiversity
- **Funding** of compensation for damage already caused by climate change in the countries most severely influenced and of a world-wide scheme of coping with the above mentioned reduction and sequestration.

Therefore, we demand of COP15 to reach an agreement that will initiate the restoration of the environmental, social and economic balance of planet Earth by means that are environmentally, socially and economically sustainable and equitable:

The COP15 countries must agree to present a detailed plan on how to bring about the above-mentioned disclosure and reduction of emission within the given time limits and indicate remedies that fulfil the demand for sustainability before COP16.

The COP15 countries must agree to a system of funding in the form of a common global tax on the emission of greenhouse gasses measured out per ton per person in order to finance compensation to the countries in the global South most severely affected by climate change and to finance the costs of carbon sequestration through planting of trees and furthering the transition to renewable energy in all countries. The system must be presented no later than COP16.

Any specific agreement on climate change must be seen in the broader context of achieving a sustainable transition of our societies. We, participating people and organisations at Klimaforum09 offer our full support and active engagement in promoting such a transition, which will require a fundamental change in political and economic structures. We must leave the present path of development based on the mastering of nature and never-ending economic growth and immediately take decisive steps to reintegrate our cultures into the realm of our diverse natures towards more meaningful lives. This requires restoration of democratic sovereignty of our local communities as the basic social, political and economic unit. Local ownership and democratic control over natural resources will imply a meaningful and sustainable development of communities and simultaneously bring down greenhouse gas emission. Such a community-based approach will need a strong global commitment to meet the challenge of climate change. We encourage free global exchange of expertise, cultural differences and transfer of renewable energy technologies.

We call upon every concerned person, social movement, cultural, political or economic organisation to join us in building a strong global movement of movements, which can bring forward our visions and demands on every level of society.

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1. Preamble

There is a solution to climate change. What people and the planet need is a just and sustainable transition of our societies to a form that will ensure the survival of all peoples especially the most vulnerable, and deliver a more fertile planet and more fulfilling lives to future generations.

We, participating people and organisations at the Klimaforum09 in Copenhagen, call upon every concerned person, social movement, cultural, political, economic or other forms of organization to contribute to this necessary transition, which in its practical implementation will have many faces. It will not be an easy task. The climate challenge is indivisibly linked to other critical ecological problems as well as to complex social issues. There are no real solutions unless both social and economic justice and ecological awareness are taken into account. It is essential to recognize that both of these issues are loaded with conflicts: On the one hand a conflict between the rich and the poor, which is only emphasized by the environmental debt, which the former owes to the latter. On the other hand a conflict between false and short-term solutions, like nuclear power, agro-fuels, CCS and carbon trading, and a truly sustainable transition based on renewable resources and energy conservation. .

We welcome alliances across the divide between different movements and sectors, representing all kinds of age, gender, ethnicity, beliefs and trades as well as like-minded municipal and national governments. We want to take the future into our own hands by building a strong and popular movement of movements of youth, women, men, workers, peasants, fisher folk, indigenous peoples, urban, and rural social groups which is able to act on all levels of society to deal with environmental degradation and climate change.

Based on the Platform of Klimaforum09 and through an open process of dialogue and knowledge sharing involving people from all continents and culminating at the venue of Klimaforum09 we are proud to present this Declaration, which spells out

- **how we see the climate challenge**
- **how we envision the necessary sustainable transition of our societies, and**
- **how we intend to form a global movement of movements to achieve this task.**

2. People are rising to the threat of climate change

All over the world the effects of climate change are becoming more and more evident. Together with growing social inequalities and severe impacts on our common environment, it is already severely threatening the lives of millions of people as well as their local communities. However, we – the people – are not prepared to accept this fact as our fate, which is the reason why we are also witnessing fast growing popular movements of climate activism resolved to defend their livelihoods and stand up against those forces and causes, that have led us on to this ultimately suicidal route of environmental destruction.

In Asia, Africa, Oceania and South and Central America popular movements are rising to confront the exploitation of their land by foreign interests and to regain control over their own resources. A good

case in point is Bolivia, where an alliance of workers, peasants and indigenous people for many years have struggled for their rights to land, water and natural resources. With the victory of the popular movement and the instalment of a new government the people of Bolivia now have the opportunity to regain control over their own land and natural resources to the benefit of both the environment and the people.

Generally it seems that the unity of social and environmental movements have been most successful in the Global South, while the situation in the Global North is still very much characterized by a fragmentation of interests and agendas. However, within the last couple of years the dire prospects of climate change appear to have opened the eyes of more and more people, also in the North. As a result, a new type of activism has revitalized the environmental movements, leading to a wide variety of protests and actions against mining, big dams, deforestation, coal fired plants, air travel and the building of new roads. There is also a growing awareness about the need to change the present economic growth paradigm in a very fundamental way and among various movements concrete experiments with alternative ways of life are proliferating. At the same time it is becoming evident to still larger groups of the public, that the present mainstream policies to combat climate change are fundamentally inadequate. The so-called strategy of 'green growth' or 'sustainable growth' has turned out to be an excuse for pursuing the same basic model of economic development, that is one of the root causes of environmental destruction and climate crisis. More and more people all over the world have come to the conclusion that the present holders of global power are unable to face and deal with the threats of climate change and environmental degradation, why a movement from below is called for.

3. The challenge, as we see it:

The concentration of green house gasses in the atmosphere is already so high, that the climate system has been brought out of balance. Global temperatures have increased twice as fast in the last 50 years as over the last century and will rise even faster in the coming decades. This adds to a multitude of other serious ecological imbalances, the impact of which threatens the lives and livelihoods of the people of the world, and most acutely of the impoverished poor.

The imbalance of the climate system leads to greater and more frequent extremes of heat and rainfall patterns, tropical cyclones, hurricanes and typhoons, extreme flooding and droughts, reduced biodiversity, landslides and avalanches, rising sea levels, shortage of drinking water, shorter growing seasons, lower yields, lost or deteriorated agricultural land, decreased agricultural production, extinction of marine ecosystems, diminished fish stocks, resulting in famine, illness, death, disruption of communities and the extinction of indigenous forms of life.

A good case in point is the recent situation in East Africa. Beginning around the turn of the century the region has witnessed a serious period of drought, lasting for almost 5 years. This has led to a massive loss of livestock and created a life threatening food crisis for more than eight million people. Having only just recovered from this drought, the region is now witnessing an entirely opposite extreme, namely the onset of El Nino Rains, which has triggered widespread flooding that has destroyed homes, harvest, roads and other infrastructure. Huge numbers of people have been displaced overnight and there have been many casualties.

Example: monoculture and soybeans

By mid 90's model of soybeans in South America enters a new phase with the incorporation of biotechnology and genetically modified soy (RR) resistant to the herbicide Roundup, created by the US company Monsanto. At present, South America has 41 million hectares planted with GM soy. Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay are among the top-seven biotech countries in the world.

Adding to the effects of climate change, intensive and industrial systems of agriculture, forestry and fishing seriously threaten the stability and diversity of many ecosystems. Industrial and export-oriented agriculture, expanding at the expense of sustainable small-scale farming, create severe erosion, polluted aquifers and seriously diminished biodiversity.

This agro-export model turns the green land into absolute deserts. Millions of hectares of monoculture of soybeans and biotech cotton, sugar cane, trees, palm oil and other raw materials are produced to meet global demand for animal feed, fibre, energy, cellulose, wood, and to a lesser extent, food. Similarly modern industrial fishing boats destroy marine ecosystems and threaten the stocks of fish in all oceans, thereby undermining the economic

Example: Honduras

In Honduras the countryside is in a fatal situation today. First, they face a scarce rainy season; sowing has not been done on time; there is no financial help from the government, so there will not be enough harvest for next year; and famine is threatening the population. The coup d'état and the government's refusal to settle the matter politically are contributing to a national food crisis.

foundation of many local and sustainable fishing communities. The same can be said about modern intensive forestry, which diminishes the biodiversity of forest ecosystems and destroys the life and livelihoods of many indigenous people. Finally industrial mining is poisoning the environment, especially in the south. The waste generated by excessive consumption especially in the north is sent back to the south, where it poisons the environment once more.

4. The causes, as we see them:

The immediate and primary cause of human-made climate change is an unprecedented emission of greenhouse gasses into the atmosphere originating from an ever-increasing burning of fossil fuels for industry, commerce, transport as well as military purposes to mention but a few but significant sources. Secondly deforestation, forest degradation, expanding areas of industrial agriculture for cash crops, increased meat-production and other types of unsustainable use of natural resources are important drivers of climate change.

Uneven control and ownership over resources

It is however important to recognize that these immediate causes are the results of an unsustainable global economic system built on the unequal access to and control over the planet's limited resources and the benefits that accrue from their use. This system is premised on the appropriation of local,

national and planetary commons by local and global elites. What has been praised as great strides in technology, production and human progress has in fact to a large extent precipitated global ecological and development disasters. On the one hand a privileged global elite engages in reckless profit-driven production and grossly excessive consumption. On the other hand, a very large proportion of humanity is mired in poverty with merely survival and subsistence consumption, or even less. The world's largest transnational corporations (TNCs) based mainly in the Northern

Example: Poor water and environmental governance

Lack of supportive policy and institutional frameworks is a contributor to the depletion of water. There are inadequate policies to govern natural resources and protect them from exploitation and other abuse. Most countries lack relevant policies. For example, Kenya does not have a wetlands policy and therefore wetlands continue to be drained by private developers to create land for agriculture and construction. This has denied communities access to water and in time, led to complete loss of the water resources. Climate change should be mainstreamed into all the sectors and this has not been adequately done.

countries, but with expanding operations in the South, have long been at the forefront of these excesses. Indeed the powerful industrialized nations of today were built on the severe exploitation of the human and natural resources of the Global South.

The competition among global corporations and rich nations for resources and greater market shares have in present times led to a neo-colonial subjugation of Southern peoples, denying them rightful ownership and control of their resources. This has transformed the economies of these countries away from diversified and self-reliant systems. The race for corporate profits and growth-guided economic decisions has resulted in overproduction and over-consumption for a minority, which has put unprecedented strains on the planet's resources and absorptive capacity for waste. Alongside the increased burning of fossil fuels and destruction of terrestrial and aquatic resources from mineral extraction, export manufacturing, industrial agriculture, and global transportation, this process is marked by the aggressive privatization and commoditisation of public resources, the dislocation of local communities and livelihoods, unequal trade relations, and the massive appropriation of social and natural wealth by elites in the North as well as parts of the South.

Prevailing patterns of thought

At the core of this present development model is the pursuit of growth and profit promoting exploitation, structural poverty, environmental degradation and global warming. This development model is however not only a question of 'economics' - in the narrow sense of this term. The prevailing economic paradigm is strongly related to the prevailing political paradigm, which again is founded on prevailing cultural norms and values with deep roots in the history of especially the West. Intertwined with patterns of patriarchy and paternalism this model has been exported to the rest of the world.

What is at stake is a system of thought, which is based on an image of the human being as 'economic man'. He is a subject without ties, a rational, utilitarian individualist, oriented towards maximising his own interest and increasing his own wealth. This rational 'economic man' is the master of nature, yet, being totally detached and alienated from both nature and the community, he does not really know what either is about.

It is this very mentality which has provided us with many of the big technological revolutions, on which much of our present wealth is grounded. However, it is this very same pattern of thought, which has also led us into the present unprecedented ecological crisis. If we really want to address this crisis, we need to recognize that the human species is part of both nature and society and cannot exist without either. Therefore if humanity is to survive, we need to respect the integrity of Mother Earth and strive for harmony with nature and for peace within and between cultures.

In this endeavour we may find much inspiration from indigenous peoples, who have a far more holistic vision of the human relation to nature, involving, amongst other things, a cyclical understanding of time and space. A good case in point is the cultural heritage of the Mesoamerican region. Here the ancestral legacy made of Maya, Pipil, Lenca and other indigenous peoples has provided the new generation of environmentalists with an important source of inspiration.

5. A sustainable transition

Contrary to the current political negotiations, there is an urgent need for a fundamental change of direction, a true transition towards a sustainable relation between peoples and nature, which is unthinkable without a similar transition of the social relations between people. Not a new 'green deal' or a new 'green growth' strategy which is to continue on basically the same unsustainable track as before. While such a sustainable transition is inspired by the same overall vision it will however in its practical implementation have many different faces depending on the local context.

A shift of paradigm

We cannot hope for a sustainable transition unless we manage to convince the broad majority of people, that it entails the promise of a more fulfilling and a more secure life. There is plenty of evidence, that the present global growth-economy not only destroys our environment and natural resources, but also creates extreme poverty especially for people, who are depending on these resources for their communities, homes, jobs, cultural traditions and basic needs. At the same time in the poor as well as in the richer part of the world, the prevailing growth paradigm is undermining the fabric of public institutions, the coherence of whole societies and even the democratic participation of people and popular movements.

The present paradigm is not only undermining our communities and social institutions, but is also invalidating more and more people on the personal level. Man is not an individual “ego”, mainly interested in consumption, as the prevailing neo-liberal ideology wants us to believe. However the systematic weakening of communities, social institutions and democratic movements has the effect of isolating people from each other, thereby promoting hostility between various segments of society. Instead we should encourage individuals to become real human beings, adopting the attitude of “One among Many” and thereby engaging in our local communities and the environment on which they depend.

The concept of sustainable transition

All these social, political, economic and ecological issues are closely interrelated. A coherent strategy must therefore address them all, which indeed is the central idea behind the concept of sustainable transition.

The cornerstone of this concept is the restoration of the local community rather than the global market as the basic social, political and economic unit. Social cohesion, democratic participation, economic accountability and ecological responsibility can only be accomplished by restoring decision-making at the lowest appropriate level, which implies taking power back from the global to the national and local level. This is the basic lesson that we have learnt from decades of market driven globalisation. This is the crucial political premise without which a true sustainable transition is unthinkable.

Such a community-based approach does however not contradict extensive international cooperation. On the contrary it will need a stronger regional, international and global cooperative arrangement to manage common and shared resources and to solve conflicts in their use. Furthermore it will promote the full exchange of ideas, technologies and expertise across all boundaries as well as engage in an open-minded dialogue between different cultures based on mutual respect.

The perspective of this community-based approach to sustainable transition is to achieve a democratically controlled economy, which is socially just while at the same time operating within the conditions and boundaries set by the local – as well as the regional and global - environment.

Such a transition of the entire economy implies a dramatic reduction in the use of natural resources, especially non-renewable fossil energy resources. On the other hand such an ecological economy will need many more skilled workers and crafted hands, than the energy- and resource intensive economy of today. An economy based on primarily local resources, must use these resources in an intelligent and efficient way, implying among other things high quality and long lives of durable goods and a high focus on repair and reuse. All this will require many more caring hands, than is the case today.

Below follows a list of some concrete steps to achieve such a transition.

Concrete steps towards a sustainable transition:

- **Sustainable farming, forestry and fishery:** diversified and ecologically sound food production that relies principally on local knowledge, appropriate technology and ecologically sustainable

techniques that bind CO₂ in the plant systems, gather water and return more nutrients to the soil, than was taken out. An immediate global ban on deforestation of virgin forests and the parallel initiation of an ambitious global tree-planting program based on native and diverse species in partnership with indigenous peoples and forest dependent communities. Similarly a ban on heavy industrialized fishing methods and a return to primarily local and sustainable fishing practices. Finally a ban on land grabbing by foreign interests and the full acceptance of national and local sovereignty over natural resources.

- **Self-sufficiency:** prioritization of self-sufficiency by diversifying industrial production, creating rural employment and meeting the demands of domestic industries and households and local consumption over international trade and export markets and thus increasing public welfare and sustaining livelihoods while minimizing energy, resource use and waste in the process
- **Renewable energy and energy savings:** A dramatic reduction of energy consumption in the rich countries combined with a blend of renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, geothermal, mini-hydro, wave and the development of off-the-grid electricity distribution to secure energy supplies to communities. In addition to the reduction in CO₂-emissions this entails, it will also eliminate the violence and destruction caused by wars on fossil resources.
- **Confrontation of violence in fossil fuel development:** The violence caused by the present fossil fuel based development model expressed in shape of oil wars, land grabbing and climate refugees should be met by defence of the right of local communities and nations over their land and the right of refugees for asylum.
- **Public transportation systems** such as light and high-speed rail-systems and bicycles away from resource-inefficient private motor vehicles thus decongesting the roads, improving health and reducing waste and carbon emission in the process.
- **Reduction of physical inputs to production,** by progressively minimizing inputs of energy and raw materials, and at the same time expanding repair, reuse and recycling of waste products back into the production cycle. While reducing physical inputs this transformation of production will at the same time involve many more skilled hands.
- **Collective control and broader social objectives:** True land reforms aiming and at an egalitarian and cooperative land tenure and land use systems, that ensure the collective control and ecologically sound use of land, water, forest and marine resources by farmers, fishing and local communities. The reorganization of society's productive units around more public, cooperative and community-based forms of ownership and management, in order to meet social needs and achieve other broader social objectives such as employment, health, education, food security, and ecological sustainability.
- **Democratic planning of enterprises** and production sectors, that are based locally and act in the service of both the community and the environment, thereby ensuring that production responds to social needs rather than create new, artificial and unsustainable wants and that it proceeds within ecological limits and social standards.
- **Planning and management of cities,** aiming at a radical reduction of the inputs of energy and resources and the outputs of waste and pollution. This requires the active engagement of all citizens in a green transition of the towns involving first and foremost the system of production, transportation and consumption, but also the insulation of houses, the energy infrastructure, and the consumerist lifestyle. Additionally this requires a mixed city landscape of housing, public transport, stores, offices and other facilities needed for basic everyday life.
- **Infrastructure planning** including energy and water supply, housing, public services, shops, production of goods, transportation, recycling and handling of waste, urban and rural areas, balanced to minimize consumption of energy and outlet of greenhouse gasses, securing locally based supply of basic needs of the citizens
- **Public control of finance:** All this requires an end to financial speculation and the neo-liberal doctrine of "free" markets. We need instead a politically controlled direction of financial resources into investments in renewable energy, energy-efficient public transport, insulation of houses and an ecological transformation of agriculture, forestry, fishery and industry.

- **Public education and cultural institutions** that reclaim people's aspirations lost to consumerism, and instil ideals that value community, solidarity, individual and cultural diversity and respect for nature. This implies also a reorientation of public research and development to meet the needs of people and the environment, rather than the present focus on commercially profitable and proprietary technologies. All research and development should be an open and collaborative endeavour in the common interest of humankind, and patents on new ideas should be placed in the public domain.
- **Greater balance and equity in economic and political relationships between nations** through the equitable reallocation of global resources, the compensation of past economic disparities between nations and the reversal of all northward flows of Southern wealth through unfair trade, debt and investment transactions.

6. Roads to transition

Present power holders appear to be unable to promote the type of sustainable transition outlined above. The drivers of such a transition will have to be social and environmental movements who work at the local, national and global level in an alliance with like-minded political, economic and cultural organizations. In pursuing this task it will be necessary to follow a two-fold strategy, which both operates within the present system and at the same time relentlessly push for changes of the system.

Within the current system: Despite the fact that the present power structures strongly favour unsustainable patterns of production and consumption, it nevertheless is possible to embark on the road of sustainable transitions within the existing political and economical setting, while at the same time pressing for urgent reforms of the system. And in fact, this is what many people are already doing all around the world. People are not only protesting against the present regime but are also on many levels actively engaged in trying to realize more sustainable ways of organising their lives and communities. Many people are involved in the practical creation of more sustainable industry, agriculture, forestry, fishery as well as renewable energy sector. These initiatives within the production system have furthermore created alliances with other sectors of society, trade unions, retail shops, consumers, city dwellers, teachers, researchers and so on, all of whom are striving towards a greener way of life.

Transition of the system: In the further process forward we must build on these existing initiatives, embracing them all in forging a strong alliance towards a sustainable transition on the global scale. In doing this, we however also need to address the existing political and economic institutions of power. We must relentlessly push for fundamental reforms of the system – reforms that not only address the climate and broader environmental issue as separate issues, but on the contrary integrates environmental considerations in all political areas, such as agriculture, transport, industry, trade etc.

In this context we of course also need to address the specific UN negotiations on Climate Change, which is culminating in these days in Copenhagen. The lessons from previous rounds of negotiations are not very promising. Despite the high-profile schemes for concerted action launched first in the 1992 Framework Convention on Climate Change of Rio de Janeiro and later in the 1997 Kyoto-protocol, results are meagre, to say the least. The problem has not been solved fundamentally, indeed it has worsened as the principles, targets and the timelines of both the Convention and the Protocol have made little headway. The reason for this rests on the fact that the COP-process has not yet acknowledged the real roots of human-made climate change: A global and undemocratic profit-driven economy devoted to never ending growth at the expense of genuine development. This fact also holds for the negotiations at the present Climate Summit in Copenhagen, which is why the probable outcome looks like being highly inadequate.

Nevertheless we must make our voices heard and put forward our demands and alternatives also in this context. These can be stated clearly and plainly:

1. **Phasing out fossil fuel:** We demand a clear strategy for dismantling the fossil fuel era within the next 30 years, which must be operational from day one and include specific milestones for every 5 year period.
2. **Financial transfer:** We demand that this strategy be accompanied by an equally clear strategy for compensating the poor – especially in the Global South – for the climate and broader environmental debt created by the rich – especially in the Global North.
3. **We express strong opposition to purely market-oriented and technology-centred** solutions put forward by many corporations, northern governments, and international financial institutions, especially where there has been undue influence of corporate interests in the crafting of domestic regulations related to energy and climate change. We reject so-called technological ‘fixes’ such as nuclear energy, agro-fuels, carbon capture and storage, biochar, genetically “climate-readied” crops, and geo-engineering, which only produce new types of environmental threats, without really solving the climate problem. Carbon-trading and offsetting are also false and unjust instruments because they treat a common planetary resource – the atmosphere – as a commodity that can be owned and traded. So far the system has not proven its merits, and by allowing rich countries to offset their reduction obligations, it has maintained the unjust and unsustainable system of the past.
4. **Tax on CO2.** Instead of the regime of tradable emission quotas we demand a high tax on CO2, part of which should be a global tax, the revenues of which could finance a global fund to be reinvested in just and sustainable projects in the global South.
5. **Reintegration of our economy:** As an alternative to the present growth oriented global economy we insist on a political commitment to reintegrate our economies into the realm of our natural ecosystems, which are always primarily local by nature. It is only within such a framework that it is possible to re-power our local communities, re-vitalize democratic participation and re-install a truly sustainable relation between humanity and nature. Any solution seeking to restore the balance between human society and nature as well as just relations among people, requires a profound reorganization of our societies towards meeting basic social goals with an awareness of planetary limits.
6. **Financial institutions:** For this reason unjust, unsustainable and unaccountable global economic and financial institutions like the WTO, the World Bank, the IMF and transnational corporations should be disempowered in favour of local and national sovereignty over resources and productive assets.
7. **We finally offer our full and active support** and involvement in promoting a sustainable transition of our societies along the lines put forward in this Declaration.

7. A global movement for sustainable transition

Irrespective of the outcome of the Copenhagen Summit on Climate Change there is an urgent need to build a global movement of movements dedicated to the long term task of promoting a sustainable transition of our societies. Contrary to the prevailing power structures this movement must grow from the bottom and up – which means that it must be founded locally and be of importance to the daily life of people. Such a movement entails at the same time the creation of a new mindset and of a new type of social activism. This movement must be capable not only of reacting to unsustainable practices, but also showing by example how a new locally based and sustainable economy can indeed function.

[The Klimaforum09 Declaration - draft two]

A movement of this sort cannot be based on environmental NGO's of the classical type. What is needed instead is a broad alliance of environmental movements, social movements, trade unions, farmers, teachers and other aligned parties that can work together in the everyday political struggle on the local as well as the national and international level.

At Klimaforum09 many contacts of this kind have already been formed and we are all committed to build on the results achieved at this event in the further development of a global movement of movements that includes all spheres of society on all levels. It is our hope that this Declaration will inspire the further development of such a movement by pointing to the general direction in which we choose to move. Together, we can make global transitions to sustainable futures.